

Connections

A Publication for Employees of the Missouri Department of Transportation

Safety is Our #1 Priority

February 21, 2013

Central Office

Districts

Northwest

Northeast

Kansas City

Central

St. Louis

Southwest

Southeast

Archives

Print Page

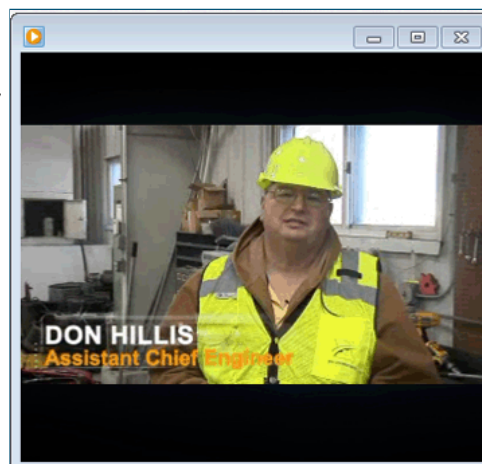
Print
Entire Edition

To continue communicating MoDOT's emphasis on safety, a new video, **Developing MoDOT's Safety Culture** is available on the Intranet. This video, narrated by Assistant Chief Engineer Don Hillis, discusses MoDOT's safety culture and highlights our new safety messages *I'm Safe, What I Do is Safe, Where I am is Safe, My Customers Are Safe, So We Go Home Safe*. It also provides an introduction to the risk based assessment process.

In the next few weeks all supervisors will be sharing the new video with employees and discussing the importance of working safely. Although the video is in many ways geared towards maintenance, the safety culture theme and safety messages are relevant for all employees.

Two new maintenance operation safety videos are also available – **Patching Roads** and **Snow and Ice Removal Process**. These videos are part of a collection used as training tools during maintenance safety discussions.

Check out these and all the safety videos, including employee testimonials, on the intranet at - [Safety Videos](#) (this link will work for employees only).

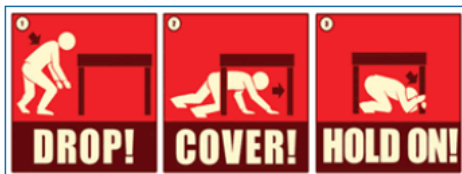


Great American ShakeOut

What would you do if you were going about your normal day's work and heard these words over the intercom or two-way radio – "An earthquake is occurring and the ground is shaking violently; please practice Drop, Cover and Hold On at your current location."

Well, hopefully after participating in the Great American ShakeOut this month, employees will know exactly what to do.

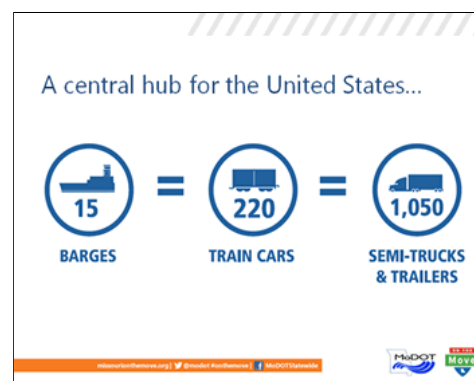
"The drill was the perfect opportunity to teach employees the techniques of Drop, Cover and Hold On," said Rick Bennett, traffic liaison engineer. "Practicing these three important steps will help employees know exactly what to do should they be faced with this situation."



Risk & Benefits employees at Central Office take cover during the Great American ShakeOut Drill. Photo by Cathy Morrison

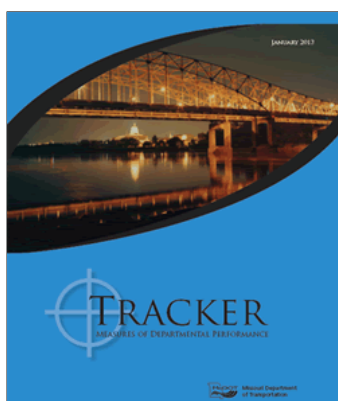
Employees are encouraged to periodically review the Drop, Cover, Hold On tactics flier, so they are always ready in an earthquake emergency. ShakeOut

On the Move



Ports remain a critically important part of our state and regional economy. Because of geography, Missouri is home to two of the great rivers, our state is a central hub for shipping by rail and river. Learn more about On The Move at www.missourionthemove.org.

What's Happening



The January 2013 Tracker Report covering the fourth quarter of 2012 was posted on the Internet. You might notice the supplement is no longer published.

With the announcement of the new Tangible Results and Value Statements, watch for additional changes to Tracker measures in the future. Tracker ([this link will work for employees only](#)).



Kansas City District Senior Maintenance Worker Diana Gough won \$750 in January's Safety Jackpot Grab-Bag monthly drawing. PEAVY National Account Manager David Welch surprised Gough during the Liberty Maintenance Facility's morning muster Wednesday, Feb. 13. **Photo by Jennifer Benefield**

February Retirements

Brett Conkling - NW - 17 years
Dorothy Johnson - NW - 16 years
Margaret Justus - NW - 16 years
Steve Bradley - NE - 31 years
Cherie Brocaille - NE - 19 years
Dennis Foglesong - NE - 25 years
Randell Galloway - NE - 28 years
Tammy Menefee - NE - 29 years
Raymond Schneider - NE - 19 years
Mary Wagner - NE - 20 years
James Wallick - NE - 13 years
Dennis Betz - KC - 19 years
Luvinia Burnett - KC - 6 years
Charles Geiger - KC - 12 years
Delbert Kessinger - KC - 10 years
Dudley Newham - KC - 28 years
Robert Stauffer - KC - 25 years
Michael Dunavant - CD - 29 years
Danny Haldiman - CD - 23 years
Jerry Martin - CD - 25 years

Tony Moore - SL - 30 years
Bruce Moss - SL - 30 years
Belinda Niswonger - SL - 17 years
Laurence Tichy - SL - 30 years
Natalie Ward-Lyn - SL - 20 years
Richard Ziegelmeyer - SL - 36 years
Cathy Bay - SW - 25 years
Robert Brunkow - SW - 20 years
Janet Cutbirth - SW - 35 years
Jerry Ellis - SW - 30 years
Lewis Gerbitz - SW - 12 years
Vickie Ginder - SW - 18 years
Walter Headrick - SW - 27 years
Rhonda Holzhauser - SW - 29 years
Joseph Horned - SW - 19 years
Vicky Luciano - SW - 14 years
Lanette Lutz - SW - 19 years
Lisa Mattocks - SW - 29 years
Patricia Radley - SW - 21 years
Mary Teel - SW - 6 years

Carmella Green - SE - 26 years
Greg Hinton - SE - 30 years
Clarence Klapmeyer - SE - 24 years
June Pullum - SE - 23 years
Mark Rhoades - SE - 22 years
Donald Riley - SE - 34 years
James Sanders - SE - 28 years
Marc Scheffel - SE - 28 years
Joyce Foster - CO - 29 years
Donna Wallach - CO - 16 years
Robert Reeder - CO - 22 years
Kevin Wideman - CO - 19 years
Jacob Bolinger - CO - 21 years
Linda Clevenger - CO - 22 years
Ronald Rudroff - CO - 16 years
David Burle - CO - 25 years
Linda McEntire - CO - 15 years
Sherrie Turley - CO - 12 years
William Stalcup - CO - 28 years
August Timpe - CO - 29 years

Lance Tipton - CD - 31 years
 Lyndon Ebker - SL - 30 years
 Ronald Ebmeier - SL - 29 years
 Kevin Golden - SL - 31 years
 Douglas Heinsohn - SL - 30 years
 Robert Maggio - SL - 29 years
 Gloria Mattingly - SL - 22 years

Roy Umstattd - SW - 27 years
 Brian Bard - SE - 28 years
 Dennis Benefield - SE - 36 years
 Clyde Brower - SE - 25 years
 Alan Casey - SE - 21 years
 Debbie Foster - SE - 22 years
 William Gettys - SE - 19 years

John Wenzlick - CO - 36 years
 Judy Bray - CO - 16 years
 Joyce Eisterhold - CO - 20 years
 Terry Petchell - CO - 18 years
 James Robinson - CO - 20 years
 John Diggs - CO - 16 years

In Memorium

Martin Tindle (active employee)
 SW District – February 2
 Vonda Goza
 Central Office – January 15
 Kenneth Bybee
 former D4 – January 17
 Billy Newman
 former D5 – January 24

Pansie Poe
 former D10 – January 25
 Harry Grieb
 former D4 – January 29
 Raymond Price
 former D10 – February 1

Wilbert Berning
 former D2 – February 1
 Earl Ervin
 former D4 – February 9
 Eugene Robson
 former 9 – February 11

Connections

The mission of Connections is to be a source of Missouri Department of Transportation news and feature articles that connect employees statewide.

Customer Relations - MoDOT
 P.O. Box 270, Jefferson City, MO 65102
 573.751.2840 / www.modot.org

Editor: Tammy Wallace

Comments & Suggestions

We would like to hear from you. Send comments and suggestions to Tammy Wallace at Tammy.Wallace@modot.mo.gov.

Mission

Our mission is to provide a world-class transportation experience that delights our customers and promotes a prosperous Missouri.

To view or print other pages, click on the links below:



Connections

A Publication for Employees of the Missouri Department of Transportation

February 21, 2013

Central
Office

[Home](#)

[Central Office](#)

Districts

[Northwest](#)

[Northeast](#)

[Kansas City](#)

[Central](#)

[St. Louis](#)

[Southwest](#)

[Southeast](#)

[Archives](#)

[Print Page](#)

[Print
Entire Edition](#)

MoDOT Employees Choose Winners of Statewide Aviation Art Competition

by DeAnne Rickabaugh

For 10 days in February, the hallway outside the Multimodal Operations division was awash with color as posters by Missouri students were displayed. The 2013 International Aviation Art Contest, sponsored by the Missouri Department of Transportation and the National Association of State Aviation Officials, carried a theme of "My Favorite Sport."

Contestants were instructed to choose from one of 11 air sport competition categories chosen by the Federation Aeronautique Internationale, an organization which promotes air sports.

MoDOT employees chose a winner in each of three age categories:

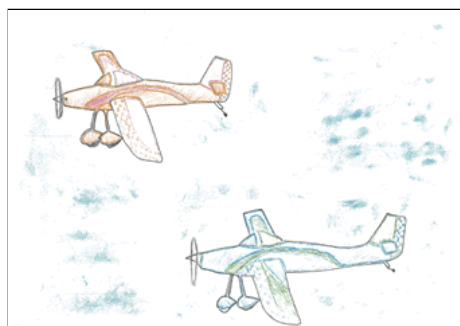
Kole Conaway of St. James School in St. Joseph, Mo., drew an image of a parachutist gliding toward the earth, winning the junior age division.

Jackson Chu, a home-educated 10-year old from Kansas City, drew two sport airplanes in mid-flight and took first place in the intermediate age division (below).

Emily Zawodney-Walkup, also a student of St. James School, drew an image of a barnstorming plane about to emerge from a red barn. She earned first place in the senior division.



MoDOT employees vote for their favorite drawing from all of the artwork submitted.



The three students received a certificate from NASAO and MoDOT. Their posters were forwarded to Washington, D.C., to be judged in the national competition. The first-, second- and third-place national winners are forwarded for international judging. Winners of the international competition receive gold, silver or bronze medals.

See the other two winning photos on the Northwest District Page - [NW District](#)

February Safety Tips Preventing Winter Slips, Trips and Falls

Slips, trips and falls are an alarming issue when it comes to workplace injuries. They account for approximately 15 to 20 percent of all workers' compensation costs. Now is the time to ensure precautions are taken to minimize the risk of slips, trips and falls.

How it Happens

A fall occurs when you lose your balance or your footing. In short, your center of gravity is displaced and there is nowhere to go but down. You may be thrown off balance by a slip (on a slick sidewalk, for example) or by a trip (by an obstacle in your path), but once you lose your footing and support, a fall is inevitable.

Keep it from Happening

Although these incidents occur all too often, the truth is, most can be prevented. All it takes is learning to recognize the hazards and taking steps to eliminate them.

- Watch out for wet, slippery surfaces. In winter months, wet and slippery surfaces indoors are especially common. Clean these areas immediately.
- Make sure walk areas outdoors are treated with ice melt and cleared as soon as possible.
- Clear ice and snow off the steps of trucks and equipment, and always use three points of contact when entering and exiting the vehicle.
- Keep work areas well lighted and clean. Always turn on the lights before entering a dark room.
- Clutter is another common hazard. Tools, boxes, boards and cords left lying around can cause a bad fall. So keep work areas, especially storage rooms, walkways and stairs free of clutter.
- Use ladders safely. Be sure you have the right ladder for the job.
- Never use chairs, stools or other improvised climbing equipment in place of an appropriate ladder.



If it Happens

Nobody wants to slip, trip or fall. However, it can happen and there are better ways to fall than others. If you fall, try the following:

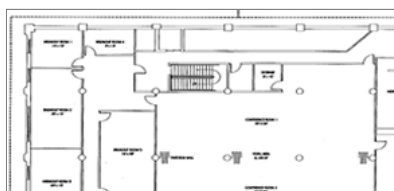
- Tuck in your chin and attempt to protect your head with your arms. It is better to land on your arms than on your head.
- While falling, twist or roll your body to the side. It is better to land on your buttocks and side than on your back.
- Keep your wrists, elbows and knees bent. Do not try to break the fall with your hands or elbows.

So, take the proper precautions and always warn fellow employees of possible hazards. Also, watch the safety video on winter slips, trips and falls on the Intranet at <http://wwwwi/intranet/SafetyVideos.htm> (this link will work for employees only).

What's Happening at Central Office



Click above for 105 West Capitol Avenue Second Floor Renovation (employees only can view)



Click above for 601 West Main Street Third Floor Renovation (employees only can view)

Facility Changes

Beginning Tuesday, Feb. 19, facilities maintenance will begin renovating the north area of the second floor at 105 West Capitol into conference rooms (the area vacated by Safe & Sound). The work will take approximately three weeks to complete, so the rooms should be available for scheduling by mid-March.

Removal of cubicles on the third floor at 601 West Main will also begin February 19 in preparation for the new conference complex designed for that facility. These conference rooms should be available for scheduling by mid-July.

Any work that will produce excessive noise levels will be done before or after core hours so minimal disruption is anticipated.

Please note this schedule may be impacted by unscheduled repairs and snow events.



Healthy Eating Workshop

Have you heard that it is healthy to add leafy greens and healthy grains to your diet, but aren't sure how to do it? Learn how by attending this educational program:

Healthy Cooking Made Easy: Greens and Grains

Thursday, Feb. 28

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

606 W Main (old garage) Training Room B

The cooking demonstration and program will show how to select and prepare healthy greens and the grain quinoa. You will also get to sample the cooking.

The workshop is presented by Mary Shackelford, RN, CHHC, HN-BC.

If you are interested in attending please enroll via the [Student Center](#) (this link will work for employees only).

For more information contact Ashley Woods, MEE Zone coordinator Ashley.Woods@modot.mo.gov, 573.751.3941.

Connections

A Publication for Employees of the Missouri Department of Transportation

February 21 , 2013

Northwest
District

Home

Central Office

Districts

Northwest

Northeast

Kansas City

Central

St. Louis

Southwest

Southeast

Archives

Print Page

Print
Entire Edition

Local Artists Soar

In this year's International Aviation Art Contest, sponsored by Mo DOT and the National Association of State Aviation Officials, two local students aimed their sights high. Contestants were asked to submit poster artwork on the theme "My Favorite Sport," choosing from one of 11 categories highlighting different aspects of air sport competitions. The competition categories were chosen by the Federations Aeronautique Internationale, an organization which promotes air sports.

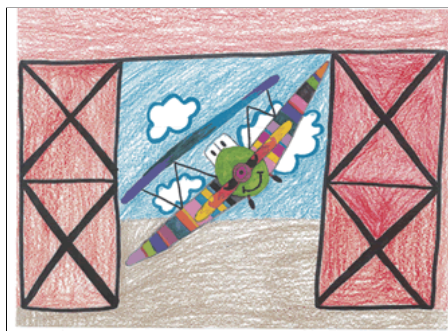
Winners were selected in three age categories: Junior, Intermediate and Senior.

To students from Northwest Missouri won in their respective categories: Kole Conaway of St. James School in St. Joseph, Mo., drew an image of a parachutist gliding toward the earth, winning the junior age division.

Emily Zawodney-Walkup, also a student of St. James School and daughter of Northwest District Senior Maintenance Worker Gregg Walkup, drew an image of a barnstorming plane coming into a red barn, earning first place in the senior division.



Kole Conaway's drawing of a parachutist won the junior age division.



Emily Zawodney-Walkup's drawing of a barnstorming plane about to enter a red barn earned her first place in the senior division.

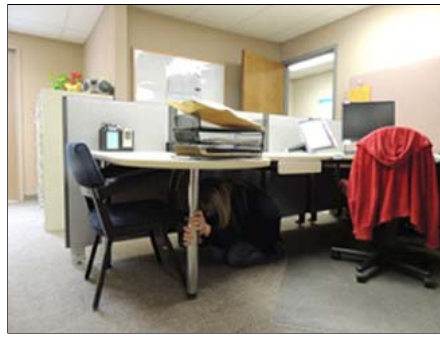
Jackson Chu, a home-educated 10-year old from Kansas City, drew two sport airplanes in mid-flight and took first place in the intermediate age division.

The three students received a certificate from NASAO and MoDOT for winning at the state level. Their posters have been sent to Washington, D.C., to be judged in the national competition. If our local students win first-, second- or third-place nationally, they move on to international judging, where they can receive gold, silver or bronze medals.

Congratulations to the winners and we wish them the best of luck at the national competition!

Whole Lot Of Shaking Going On

At approximately 10:15 a.m. on Feb. 7, 2013, a 7.7 magnitude earthquake hit the New Madrid, Mo. area and crews from the Northwest District began mobilizing to assist the affected areas. Luckily, though, it was just a drill. The Northwest District tested its response readiness as we participated in the 2013 Great Central U.S. Shakeout. Office personnel practiced the Drop, Cover and Hold On procedure and bridge inspectors conducted inspections as if this was a real event. The Emergency Operations Center was activated and a 'war room' was set up in the Northwest Conference Center. Staff from different departments gathered to share information and participate in a table top exercise to deploy one of our three emergency response teams and equipment to the southwest part of the state.



Senior Risk Management Technician Tina Kavanaugh practices the Drop, Cover and Hold On procedure during the earthquake drill.



Northwest District staff gather for a table top exercise during the earthquake drill.

For more info

Melissa Black
Customer Relations Manager
Northwest District
816.387.2481
Melissa.Black@modot.mo.gov

3602 N. Belt Highway
St. Joseph, MO 64506-1399

Comments & Suggestions

We would like to hear from you. Send comments and suggestions to Tammy Wallace at Tammy.Wallace@modot.mo.gov.

Mission

Our mission is to provide a world-class transportation experience that delights our customers and promotes a prosperous Missouri.

To view or print other pages, click on the links below:



Connections

A Publication for Employees of the Missouri Department of Transportation

February 21 , 2013

[Home](#)

[Central Office](#)

[Districts](#)

[Northwest](#)

[Northeast](#)

[Kansas City](#)

[Central](#)

[St. Louis](#)

[Southwest](#)

[Southeast](#)

[Archives](#)

[Print Page](#)

[Print
Entire Edition](#)

Northeast District

Get Onboard and Gear Up!

by Marisa Ellison

On Feb. 13, the Northeast District held its first onboarding session, now called "Gear Up". After several months of developing this program, employees new to MoDOT are being introduced to our culture, safety practices, and basic equipment training needed to perform their jobs.

"This new program is designed to have more on-the-job training and less classroom time," said Shari Dye, Northeast safety and health manager, and a team member who helped develop the onboarding program. "We want our new employees to feel part of the team the very first day they report to work," she said.

Once employees have completed the class work, they will continue their education within the work unit using mentors and fellow employees.



Shari Dye, Northeast health and safety manager, goes over some of the basic safety training during the first NE District "Gear Up" program for new employees that was held on Feb. 13.

Northeast Battle of the Belt Awards Continue

Most Improved School and PSA Honorable Mention



On Feb. 14, Adair County R-1 School in Novinger received a silver banner for their hard work and dedication in the Battle of the Belt competition. They also received the Most Improved Award with a 153% increase in seat belt usage. Presenting the awards were Amy Crawford, representative for the NE Coalition for Roadway Safety, Adair County Sheriff Robert Hardwick and American Family agents Fred Collop and Bill Mangini. Accepting the awards were Brenda Methany, elementary student council sponsor, and Lexi Baird, student council member.



On Feb. 15, a special presentation was made to Montgomery County High School during the court warming pep assembly to the creators and actors of the Fourth Place/Honorable Mention PSA "What Would Willie Do" in the Battle of the Belt program. Accepting the banner are student actors Dalton Hardwick and Jake Kent, Multimedia students MacKenzie Yager, Jessica Padgett and Ross Brower, creators of the video, Dylan Skeens as Willie, Michele Taylor, a representative with American Family Insurance and Cathy Dailey, school coordinator for the contest.

Safety in Powerlifting



The Northeast District has been conducting powerlifting training over the last few weeks and it will continue in the weeks ahead. Employees are learning safe pushing, pulling, bending, reaching, sitting, standing and lifting techniques with real-world examples.

Bob Adkisson, Hannibal maintenance, is one of the district trainers and is pictured here demonstrating the proper technique to lifting buckets. Employees learn the importance of lifting with their legs and not their backs in order to keep their backs in a neutral and safe posture while the object is being lifted.

By April 1, the district plans to have all of its employees properly trained in lifting.

Everyone...JUST DRIVE! Conference

Click on image for a printable format.



**NE Coalition for Roadway Safety
Conference & Annual Meeting**

**Wednesday, March 6, 2013
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

Quality Inn & Suites in Hannibal

**All safety partners and potential safety partners invited -
NO CHARGE
(Lunch is provided)**

**Register online at savemolives.com
or
Call 660-385-8257 before March 1st.**

For more info

Marisa Brown-Ellison
Customer Relations Manager
Northeast District
573.248.2502
Marisa.Ellison@modot.mo.gov

1711 S. Highway 61
Hannibal, MO 63401

Comments & Suggestions

We would like to hear from you. Send comments and suggestions to Tammy Wallace at Tammy.Wallace@modot.mo.gov.

Mission

Our mission is to provide a world-class transportation experience that delights our customers and promotes a prosperous Missouri.

To view or print other pages, click on the links below:



Connections

A Publication for Employees of the Missouri Department of Transportation

February 21, 2013

[Home](#)

[Central Office](#)

[Districts](#)

[Northwest](#)

[Northeast](#)

[Kansas City](#)

[Central](#)

[St. Louis](#)

[Southwest](#)

[Southeast](#)

[Archives](#)

[Print Page](#)

[Print
Entire Edition](#)

Kansas City
District

Ground Breaking Marks Official Start of Interchange Improvements

by Kerri Lewis

A brisk Friday afternoon, Feb. 15 welcomed more than 50 people to a ground breaking ceremony to celebrate the beginning of the highly anticipated I-35 and Route 291 Interchange project in Liberty. Representatives from U.S. Senators Roy Blunt's and Claire McCaskill's offices and U.S. Congressman Sam Graves' office, Mo. State Representative Myron Neth, Clay County Commissioners, and the Cities of Liberty and Kansas City joined MoDOT to kick-off the \$10.6 million project.



MoDOT joined by Clarkson Construction, officials from Clay County, the cities of Liberty and Kansas City, and elected officials turn the dirt for the ceremonial kick-off of the I-35 and Route 291 Interchange project. Photo: Kerri Lewis

More than 22,000 vehicles pass through the I-35 interchange each day. As the City of Liberty continues to grow and thrive, the interchange and roadway have become congested, creating capacity and safety issues in the area. The KC District is working closely with city officials to address the needs of the community.

The existing Route 291 Bridge over I-35 is not currently wide enough to carry the number of lanes for traffic required to help reduce congestion in the area. It creates a bottleneck causing large backups during peak travel times. In addition, the west outer road, or Church Road is in very close proximity to the ramps causing issues with signal timing in the area creating additional backups.

The proposed solution will replace the existing bridge over I-35 with a wider structure to accommodate growth and alleviate congestion. Dual left turn lanes will be added on southbound Route 291 to northbound I-35, and northbound Route 291 to southbound I-35 will have a longer turn lane to accommodate more vehicles making the turn.



District Engineer Dan Niec (front right) shakes hands with the City of Liberty Mayor Greg Canuteson, thanking him and the city for their continued partnership and the pivotal role he played in seeing this project come to fruition. Photo: Kerri Lewis

Additional improvements include widening Route 291 between Glenn Hendren Drive and 96th/Ash Street. Also, a multi-use path will be built adjacent to the north of Route 291, and North Church Road will be realigned to the west of its current location to allow for better spacing between Church Road and the signals at the southbound ramps to reduce traffic congestion.

"This project is important to this area. People make the decision on where they live based on quality of life. Part of quality of life is infrastructure... safe, efficient travel within the community you live. That is what makes projects like this one so important to this community and to the region," said District Engineer Dan Niec. "With good weather and the outstanding efforts from our contractor Clarkson Construction, we will have this interchange open to traffic by the end of this year."



Prep work is in full swing for construction of a new bridge that will carry more than 22,000 vehicles on Route 291 over I-35. Photo: Kerri Lewis

For more info

Jennifer Benefield
Customer Relations Manager
Kansas City District
816.607.2153
Jennifer.Benefield@modot.mo.gov

600 NE Colbern Road
Lee's Summit, MO 64086

Comments & Suggestions

We would like to hear from you. Send comments and suggestions to Tammy Wallace at Tammy.Wallace@modot.mo.gov.

Mission

Our mission is to provide a world-class transportation experience that delights our customers and promotes a prosperous Missouri.

To view or print other pages, click on the links below:



Connections

A Publication for Employees of the Missouri Department of Transportation

February 21, 2013

Central
District

[Home](#)

[Central Office](#)

Districts

[Northwest](#)

[Northeast](#)

[Kansas City](#)

[Central](#)

[St. Louis](#)

[Southwest](#)

[Southeast](#)

[Archives](#)

[Print Page](#)

[Print
Entire Edition](#)

Crews Use Innovation to Deliver Outstanding Customer Service

Central District maintenance crews recently put their heads together to come up with an innovative concept to improve Route U in Washington County. Their creative idea made it possible to widen a low-water crossing without closing the bridge for a long period of time.

The crossing at John Smith Road, a one-lane bridge used by more than a thousand drivers a day, was a source of concern for local residents. Potosi Maintenance Supervisor Ben Wharton elevated the location as a high priority need after hearing repeated concerns from residents in the area. After an examination by local MoDOT crews and Area Engineer Preston Kramer, it was decided to expand the crossing into two lanes without removing the existing box culvert.



Thanks to some innovative thinking, Central District maintenance crews were able to widen this low-water crossing and make it safer without a lot of disruption to local motorists.

"We developed a plan to insert larger oval pipes into each bay, place fill in the void between the outside of the pipe and the inside face of the box, knock off the culvert headwalls and widen the roadway over the top of the pipes," said Kramer. "There was significant prep work to be done before the pipes could be slid into place, as well as quite a bit of cleanup work afterwards."

The work was handled by maintenance crews from Potosi, with assistance from the Cuba and Steelville maintenance facilities.

Kramer noted that the roadway closures were infrequent and short-lived during the whole retrofit process because the existing culvert was left in place. The Potosi Independent Journal called the work "arguably the biggest local area road improvement in some time . . ."

Stadium Boulevard Project Awarded

A project to construct the Central District's first diverging diamond interchange at Route 740 (Stadium Boulevard) and Interstate 70 is moving forward. The Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission on Feb. 6 awarded a construction contract to build the interchange in Columbia.

"We are very excited to get this project under way," said Central District Project Manager Mike Dusenberg. "The new interchange will address congestion and safety issues in that area of Columbia."



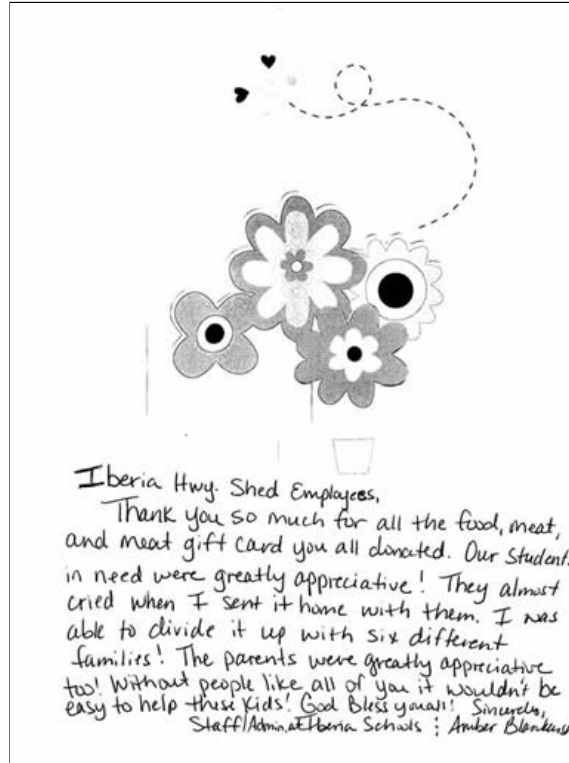
This stretch of Stadium Boulevard in Columbia will soon see improvements, including the district's first diverging diamond interchange.

Emery Sapp and Sons, Inc. of Columbia, Mo. was awarded the contract after submitting the low bid of \$12.7 million. In addition to the new diverging

diamond interchange, the project will widen Stadium Boulevard from just north of Interstate 70 to south of Broadway. The project also includes adding two lanes to Bernadette Drive from Fairview Road to Beverly Drive.

Construction is scheduled to begin in the spring and be complete in late 2014. Funding for the improvements comes from a cost-share agreement between MoDOT and the City of Columbia.

Iberia Crew Helps Local Families



Staff with the Iberia Public Schools recently sent a belated thank you to employees with the Iberia maintenance facility for their generosity during the holiday season. Maintenance staff members collected food and gift cards for local families and brought them to the school to be distributed to families in need. In all, the school was able to help six families with the shed's contributions.

"Thank you so much for all the food, meat and the neat gift card you donated," wrote High School Counselor Amber Blankenship in a thank-you card to the crew. "Our students in need were greatly appreciative."

"This is the first year we have collected for families in need, but we plan to continue in the years to come," said Iberia Maintenance Supervisor Tyann Alexander. "MoDOT is a very caring and generous organization, and I'm proud to be a part of it."

Plaque Again Honors Fallen Workers

A plaque that bears the names of Central District employees who lost their lives in the line of duty has regained its proper place at the Central District's main building. The plaque had been in storage since the lobby was remodeled. Here, Senior Facility Operations Specialist Andy Goeller and Facility Operations Supervisor Phil Hamilton place the plaque at the main entrance to the building.



Connections

A Publication for Employees of the Missouri Department of Transportation

February 21, 2013

[Home](#)

[Central Office](#)

Districts

[Northwest](#)

[Northeast](#)

[Kansas City](#)

[Central](#)

St. Louis

[Southwest](#)

[Southeast](#)

[Archives](#)

[Print Page](#)

[Print
Entire Edition](#)

St. Louis
District

MoDOT Receives "Good Egg" Award for Saving Missouri's Endangered Bird

by Kara Price



MoDOT team members receive Falcon Award. Pictured (left to right): Gayle Unruh, MoDOT environmental and historical preservation manager; Chris Shulse, MoDOT senior environmental specialist; Bree McMurray, MoDOT senior environmental specialist; Eric Burlbaw, MoDOT intermediate construction inspector; Tom Reed, MoDOT construction inspector; Jeff Meshach, World Bird Sanctuary.

MoDOT's St. Louis district recently received a prestigious award, called "World Bird Sanctuary's Good Egg Award," for saving a peregrine falcon during a construction project. This beautiful bird is considered an endangered species in Missouri, which was found on the Jefferson Barracks bridge in south St. Louis County during work performed this past summer.

Tom Reed and Eric Burlbaw, both construction inspectors for this bridge project, explained how they encountered and saved the falcon by just doing their job.

"In June, our contractor began removing a lateral brace under the Jefferson Barracks bridge. There was an unusually high amount of activity from the larger birds in our work area. The contractor brought this to my attention, so our team investigated the situation. We noticed a very large juvenile bird nested in the adjacent bay of the bridge. The contractor was requested by us to hold off on any further work until we could figure out what type of bird we were dealing with."

They added, "Through our investigation, we found that this bird was in fact a juvenile peregrine falcon which is considered an endangered species. We worked with our contractor to bolt the lateral brace back in place that we began work on and clear the construction site until the bird could get in a safe location, so we wouldn't harm it. Our team checked on the falcon daily to see if it was still residing there. Within a week, the falcon eventually flew away from the bridge permanently where we resumed the construction work."

Pictured on right: First day bridge team noticed juvenile peregrine falcon nested in the adjacent bay of the Jefferson Barracks bridge.



Final Phase of Route 364 Project Awarded to Design-Build Contractor

by Linda Wilson Horn

At its Feb. 6 meeting, the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission selected the Page Constructors Joint Venture to be the Design-Build contractor for the final phase of Route 364 Page Avenue Phase 3. The \$118.2 million project will build nine miles of four lane divided highway from Route 94 in St. Peters to I-64 in Lake Saint Louis.



of Page Constructors as the winning Design-Build team for Route 364 Page Phase 3, the group posed as a team including members of the Route 364 Page Avenue MoDOT team, senior MoDOT management, FHWA and the winning contractor.

“The Page Constructors proposal provides a great project that meets all of our needs and the needs of St Charles County,” said Commission Vice-Chair Grace Nichols. “The citizens of St. Charles County have been waiting for decades to see the completion of Page Avenue. We couldn’t have done this without the excellent partnership between the Commission, St. Charles County and the municipalities to fund this project.”

Shortly after the MHTC approval

MoDOT St. Louis District Engineer Ed Hassinger added, “Their proposal provides the most improvements for our budget with a delivery ahead of our schedule. The impacts to the public during construction will be very minimal.”

MoDOT’s Route 364 Project Director Mike Castro will be completing the contract negotiations over the next month. Design will be underway in March and construction should start in May. The new highway will open to traffic in three sections in the Fall of 2014 between Labor Day and Halloween. The winning proposal beat MoDOT’s completion deadline of Dec. 1, 2014.

The funding for Route 364 Page Phase 3 is a cost-share project with MoDOT, St. Charles County and the local municipalities in St. Charles County. Of the \$118.2 million project, the local cost-share is for \$57 million.

Fred Weber Inc, Millstone Bangert Inc, and Kolb Grading have come together to operate as Page Constructors LLC for the Route 364 Page Phase 3. The lead designer is Parsons Transportation Group with design support from Horner & Shiffrin. The team will pursue subcontracting to Disadvantaged Business Enterprise companies for 18 percent of the construction work and 20 percent of the professional services work. Workforce goals also include a 14.7% minority and 6.9% female workers per trade.

More information is available online at www.modot.org/route364.

For more info

Marie Elliott
Customer Relations Manager
St. Louis District
314-453-1807
Marie.Elliott@modot.mo.gov

1590 Woodlake Drive
Chesterfield, MO 63017

Comments & Suggestions

We would like to hear from you. Send comments and suggestions to Tammy Wallace at Tammy.Wallace@modot.mo.gov.

Mission

Our mission is to provide a world-class transportation experience that delights our customers and promotes a prosperous Missouri.

To view or print other pages, click on the links below:



Connections

A Publication for Employees of the Missouri Department of Transportation

February 21, 2013

Southwest
District

Home

Central Office

Districts

Northwest

Northeast

Kansas City

Central

St. Louis

Southwest

Southeast

Archives

Print Page

Print
Entire Edition



REPLACING A DRAIN PIPE: Working on one of the Southwest District's many wintertime pipe replacement projects is Seymour Senior Maintenance Worker Danny Cook. This is on Greene County Route D near Route 125 north of Rogersville. (Photo by Bob Edwards)



PREPARING FOR AN EARTHQUAKE: Springfield-Joplin Maintenance Superintendent Mark McCoy staffs the Transportation Management Center of the Ozarks in Springfield during the Great Central U.S. ShakeOut earthquake drill Feb. 7. He is logging text messages from maintenance workers inspecting bridges across the Southwest District. (Photo by Angela Eden)

Southwest Maintenance Crews Focus On Winter Work Plans

by Angela Eden

It was a simple question.

"What can we do during the winter months to help us become more efficient with our work during the summer months?" Southwest District Maintenance Engineer Michael Middleton asked the district's six field maintenance superintendents.

The answer: develop a winter work plan for each superintendent area. That's just what the superintendents did.

The detailed plan being followed this winter spells out work to be done between winter storms. It includes tasks like repairing roadway edges, cutting brush, replacing drain pipes and sealing pavement cracks.

The winter work plan went into effect Nov. 1 and will be complete by April 1 when crews transition to summer road maintenance work.

"A lot of the (winter) work is driven by what's coming up this summer -- planned contractor work," Middleton said.

Some areas needed to replace a lot of drain pipes. For example, more pipes than ever before were dug up and replaced in Superintendent Eddie Carroll's area, covering Benton, St. Clair, Hickory and Henry counties.

Carroll said his crews also have repaired many pavement edge drop-offs and sealed many miles of pavement cracks.

Crews in Superintendent Johnny Mathews' area completed all of their scheduled pipe replacements and are finishing up brush removal from around road signs.

"Crews placed 1,500 to 2,000 feet of pipe this year. Not as much as last year, but still a lot," Mathews said.

Southwest District Workplace Innovations Chosen for Statewide 'ProMo Challenge'

by Bob Edwards

Six workplace process changes developed by Southwest District employees designed to improve how MoDOT does business have been entered in the department's statewide Innovations ProMo Challenge.

Department evaluators will decide which winning entries from around the state will be displayed at the Innovations Challenge Showcase in April in Springfield.

The ProMo Challenge was established to recognize employee-generated improvements in projects, processes and products that do not fall into the "invention" categories captured by the Tool and Equipment Challenge.

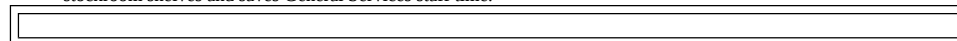
In all, the Southwest District had 17 entries in the ProMo contest. The 11 entries NOT chosen for submission to the ProMo Challenge will be included in the Solutions at Work program.

Entries in the Innovations ProMo Challenge are judged on whether the changes save time or money, provide a superior product or service, improve safety, enhance MoDOT's environmental stewardship and can impact the entire organization.

The Southwest District coordinator for the ProMo competition is Assistant District Engineer Andy Mueller.

Here's a quick look at the district's six winning entries:

- Traffic (Joplin and Springfield Signal Shops) -- New "Red" Signal Ahead reflective sign with sealed LED panel. The new sign-with-LED panel, requiring only one post instead of two, replaces a much heavier, more expensive, less durable, non-reflective sign and LED component.
- Anderson Maintenance (John Allison, Scott Claycomb, Mike Judd and Ron Kuhn) -- Offset Object Marker. This involves mounting an object marker sign on the right-hand side of the post in locations where the sign has been hit and damaged or knocked down by vehicle side mirrors. The crew has not had to replace any signs where they have been shifted on the post.
- Traffic (Joe Rickman) -- Traffic Pacing Guidelines. This analytical approach uses traffic volumes as a starting point to help determine whether a "rolling roadblock" can be safely allowed and at what time of day. It will show how much traffic will be stacked in queue when slowed and how far back the operation must begin to slow traffic enough to keep it away from a project site for a few minutes.
- Safety and Health (Gary McLarry and Jodie Payne) -- Hearing Protection Training. Employees are instructed on the correct insertion and removal of ear plugs. This training has been adopted for statewide use.
- Traffic (Brian Doubrava) -- Turning Movement Analysis Program. It's a computer program for traffic signal timing plans. It quickly pulls conclusions from rough data and provides it in easier-to-read graphic form. Because it became no longer necessary to pour over complicated spread sheets to find information needed, the program saved an estimated 200 hours of engineering time in 2012.
- General Services (Janet Doty) -- Web-Based Online Ordering System. This makes a wider variety of supplies available to field staff as a "one-stop shop." It enables employees to order only what they need, keeps merchandise from sitting on stockroom shelves and saves General Services staff time.



For more info

Bob Edwards
Customer Relations Manager
Southwest District
417.895.7713
Robert.Edwards@modot.mo.gov

3025 E. Kearney
P.O. Box 868
Springfield, MO 65801

Comments & Suggestions

We would like to hear from you. Send comments and suggestions to Tammy Wallace at Tammy.Wallace@modot.mo.gov.

Mission

Our mission is to provide a world-class transportation experience that delights our customers and promotes a prosperous Missouri.

To view or print other pages, click on the links below:



Connections

A Publication for Employees of the Missouri Department of Transportation

February 21, 2013

[Home](#)

[Central Office](#)

Districts

[Northwest](#)

[Northeast](#)

[Kansas City](#)

[Central](#)

[St. Louis](#)

[Southwest](#)

[Southeast](#)

[Archives](#)

[Print Page](#)

[Print
Entire Edition](#)

Southeast
District

Southeast Missourians Help Build Transportation Plan

On the Move Listening Session Held in Cape Girardeau

What kind of transportation system do you see for Missouri? That's the question MoDOT is posing through the statewide engagement effort called On the Move. During a recent listening session held in Cape Girardeau, approximately 50 Missourians joined to share their thoughts.

Southeast District Engineer Mark Shelton with Listening Session Facilitator Jeff Glenn provided the audience with an overview of the state's transportation system, as well as specifics about Southeast Missouri.

In addition, attendees participated in roundtable discussions based on various funding scenarios to discuss MoDOT's challenges, opportunities and priorities.

Many of the discussions focused on maintaining the system; completing more multimodal projects, such as constructing ports and increasing transit options; and finding ways to be more innovative and creative when completing work.

"We want Missourians to help us build a strong vision for our state's future," said Shelton. "Together, we will create a vision for a safe and reliable system, while fostering economic prosperity."



President & CEO of the Cape Girardeau Area Chamber of Commerce John Mehner discusses transportation priorities for Missouri's future.



Kathy Mangels, Southeast Missouri State University Vice President for Finance and Administration, begins the On the Move session by discussing the importance of transportation.

Shelton added that there are more opportunities for Missourians to assist in creating this vision.

"In the Southeast District, we will hold a second listening session in Poplar Bluff this March," he said. "MoDOT will also visit each of its 114 counties through a mobile tour that will kick-off this spring."

In addition, comments may be submitted online at www.missourionthemove.org. Visitors to the site can also learn about Missouri's current transportation system, track what MoDOT is hearing from Missourians and stay updated on the latest On The Move events.

Southeast District Markets Former Maintenance Facilities

With spring quickly approaching, the Southeast District is preparing to do a little spring cleaning of its own. On March 7 and 8, MoDOT will "clean-up" its real estate inventory by hosting live auctions to sell former maintenance facilities in Portageville and Wasola.

For more information about the parcels, please visit www.modot.org/southeast/RealtytoRoads.htm. Boundary surveys, location maps and photos are available online.

Providing Outstanding Customer Service

Please see the note from Mr. Otis Lou below. He took time to write in to thank Customer Service Representative Melissa Crowley and the Poplar Bluff Maintenance Crew.

Dear Melissa,
I'm Otis Lou Jr., the one that called you a few weeks ago about a bump going into Poplar Bluff on Hwy. 60. Thanks to you, the bump is now smoothed out. I appreciate this very much.